
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1423

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2005 Regular Session

By House Committee on Economic Development, Agriculture & Trade
(originally sponsored by Representatives Curtis, Linville, Clibborn
and Chase)

READ FIRST TIME 03/01/05.

1 AN ACT Relating to controlling invasive knotweed; adding a new
2 section to chapter 17.26 RCW; creating a new section; making
3 appropriations; providing an effective date; and declaring an
4 emergency.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 17.26 RCW
7 to read as follows:

8 (1) The legislature finds that the presence of invasive knotweed on
9 public and private land threatens wildlife habitat, agricultural
10 production, and environmental quality statewide. The legislature
11 further finds that invasive knotweed found on private lands is a source
12 of renewed infestation on public lands. The legislature therefore
13 finds that it is in the public interest to protect public resources by
14 making concerted efforts to control or contain invasive knotweed on
15 both public and private lands statewide.

16 (2) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this
17 specific purpose, the state department of agriculture, in consultation
18 with the state noxious weed control board, shall establish a program
19 for the control or containment of invasive knotweed statewide.

1 (a) The department of agriculture may enter into agreements for
2 this purpose with eligible entities including but not limited to:
3 State agencies, local governments, special purpose districts, Indian
4 tribes, and nonprofit corporations.

5 (b) The department of agriculture may adopt rules to implement this
6 program.

7 (c) This program is intended to build upon the 2004 knotweed
8 control pilot project conducted in southwest Washington.

9 (3) For purposes of this section, "invasive knotweed" means the
10 following plants: *Polygonum cuspidatum* (Japanese knotweed), *Polygonum*
11 *polystachyum* (Himalayan knotweed), *Polygonum sachalinense* (giant
12 knotweed), *Polygonum x bohemicum* (Bohemian knotweed), and hybrids and
13 crosses of these species.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The sum of five hundred thousand
15 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for
16 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006, from the general fund to the
17 department of agriculture for the purposes of this act.

18 (2) The sum of five hundred thousand dollars, or as much thereof as
19 may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30,
20 2007, from the general fund to the department of agriculture for the
21 purposes of this act.

22 (3) The department of agriculture may use no more than five percent
23 of the appropriated funds for agency administrative costs.

24 (4) It is the intent of the legislature that this appropriation
25 represents an ongoing commitment to a program to control and contain
26 invasive knotweed and that appropriations for it will continue in the
27 future.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Within the dollars available for
29 administration as specified in section 2(3) of this act, by December 1,
30 2006, the department of agriculture shall prepare and submit a report
31 to the legislature documenting progress made and future recommendations
32 for containing and controlling invasive knotweed under this program.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act is necessary for the immediate
34 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the

1 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
2 July 1, 2005.

--- END ---